



Fall 2017

Annual Report to the Community



This has been another year of ever-changing and fast-paced activity here at the AHT.

The work of community groups in the region has not slowed down and, as you will see from the information in this report, services in the building to support this work continue to be in high-demand.

In April AHT welcomed Lucy Harnish, to the role of Administrative Assistance. In addition to her day-to-day work at the AHT, Lucy took the lead on the S.W.A.G. Team and also worked hard to establish the Youth Volunteer Project.

Not only did AHT see changes to its staffing, but 2017 also saw a change in the tenants in the building. In the spring we welcomed Huestis Insurance Group (formerly Mahone Insurance Group) to the AHT building. Paula Barclay and her co-workers are located on the lower level of the building in Unit 5. If you have not already, come in and say hi!



There were also changes to the property itself with the addition of the Connect2 walking trail along the property. Running parallel to Hwy 3, it is designed to provide an alternative and safer route from the trail to the intersection. Please feel free to take advantage of the trail anytime you are passing by this way. New community garden elements and landscaping features were introduced and the installation of the permanent greenhouse was completed. AHT would like to thank Jim Blyth for the construction of the new greenhouse. We are pleased to say that the structure features 95% repurposed materials and has been a welcome addition to the garden.

AHT continues to work with groups and individuals to make this region a place to live, work and play. AHT board and staff are looking forward to getting to meet with the broader community through the many events and activities that are taking place this fall around the region.

2017-2018 Board of Directors

Joanne Lovett, Chair
 David Bond, Vice-chair
 Scott Hogue, Treasurer
 Janet Irwin, Secretary
 Christine Richardson

Floyd Shatford
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Scotiabank is closed...now what?

Effective October 19, the community is without the local branch of the Scotiabank. If you are feeling that you are left not knowing how to get to the bank or where to turn for help, there are a few options that you may find helpful.

- ⇒ Did you know that Community Wheels can provide transportation, on a pay-what-you-can basis? As part of a pre-booked service, Community Wheels can help people get to the bank of their choice and to other locations within the region to do your errands, get to appointments or just visit a friend for lunch. Call 902-275-5585 for more details.
- ⇒ Have you thought about moving to online banking but need some help setting it up or learning how to use it with confidence, then sign up for one of our confidential 1:1 tech support sessions. Call the AHT office at 902-857-1133 to arrange an appointment.
- ⇒ If you are in need of cash, there is a new cash dispensing ATM at the Pharmasave in Hubbards. The machine does not accept deposits.
- ⇒ The cashback function at the tellers are also an option for people to use. This is a way to get cash at the point of sale locations like the grocery store, liquor store and other retail outlets.

For some people, moving to direct deposit for cheques and using the mobile app on your devices is an option. But this is not an option that works for everyone and so if you need any extra help navigating the system, please contact the AHT office and we will try to help make this transition a little easier.

Youth Volunteer Project

Volunteer



Squad

Another summer has come and gone but not without impact. This summer marked the beginning of a new Youth Volunteer Project in partnership with AHT, the Municipality of the District of Chester, and the Lunenburg Queens Volunteer Partnership. At the first meeting the participants decided Youth Volunteer Pilot was too much of a mouthful and deemed themselves the "Volunteer Squad." The "squad" boasted over 12 youth volunteers aged 11-14 who engaged with their community through meaningful volunteer work. Some of the events they participated in included: AHT's Canada Day event, Movie Nights at the Waterfront, World Tuna Flat Races, and the Hubbards Annual Grand Street Parade. Though the age range was younger than originally anticipated we are so proud of what they accomplished over the summer and are excited to provide youth with opportunities where they can create community connections that not only benefit youth but positively influence the direction of our community. The next step for this project is beginning a mentorship program within the Volunteer Squad to introduce new faces to the team and continue to engage and support youth within the Hubbards and Area Community. If you are aware of a community group or organization that needs volunteers for an event, please contact Lucy at the AHT office by calling 902-857-1133 or by email at lharnish@aspotogan.org.





From Blue to Green

For summer 2017, AHT placed a large emphasis on the environment. To give the environment the attention it deserves, Megan Eagles was hired as the Green Coordinator on the S.W.A.G. team. Megan, who is an Environmental Science Student at Holland College, tended the community garden; made sure the plants were watered and weeded, and kept the flowers blooming brightly. In the office Megan assisted in planning events, making sure to implement “green” plans for each one. For Canada Day she sourced out recyclable cups, compostable plates and wooden forks. She also made sure waste sorting stations were in visible areas, easily accessible, and well labeled. Megan planned a Butterfly Garden workshop with the Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute, who generously donated supplies to plant a butterfly garden at AHT to help rebuild the population of Monarchs in our community. Megan also worked with Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation to conduct water sampling at Fox Point Lake, as part of the ongoing water monitoring committee work with the Municipality of the District of Chester. AHT is proud of all the results this summer yielded and is committed to continuing to make “green” a priority and protecting our community’s environment.



Thank you to the 2017 S.W.A.G Team

With the dog days of summer behind us it is time to reflect on the eventful summer we had with the 2017 S.W.A.G. team at the helm. Lucy, AHT’s administrative assistant, worked closely with this year’s S.W.A.G. team which included: Megan Eagles, Jenna Wilson, Brendan Gamache, Chanse Harnish, and Grace Hirsch. For their first event together as a team they planned, set-up, and ran AHT’s Canada Day celebration. The day consisted of a “virtual” trip across Canada with every station representing a different Canadian Province or Territory, plus live music, a BBQ and Birthday cake. Drizzle did not dampen the Canadian spirit as this was the biggest turnout to date! Their second major event of the summer was hosting the children’s play area at the World Tuna Flat Races. They provided face painting, a kiddie pool, and different artsy activities. They also lent a helping-hand at this year’s Senior’s Picnic, providing attendees with refreshments throughout the day. The team created their own rendition of The Beatles’ Yellow Submarine as a parade float while also juggling planning parade day and organizing the parade line up. Despite the rain’s best effort, we had the most entries in five years at the Hubbards Annual Grand Street Parade – let’s just say, it did rain on our parade but it definitely did not ruin it. Thank you for joining us this year! We are excited for the possibilities of next year.



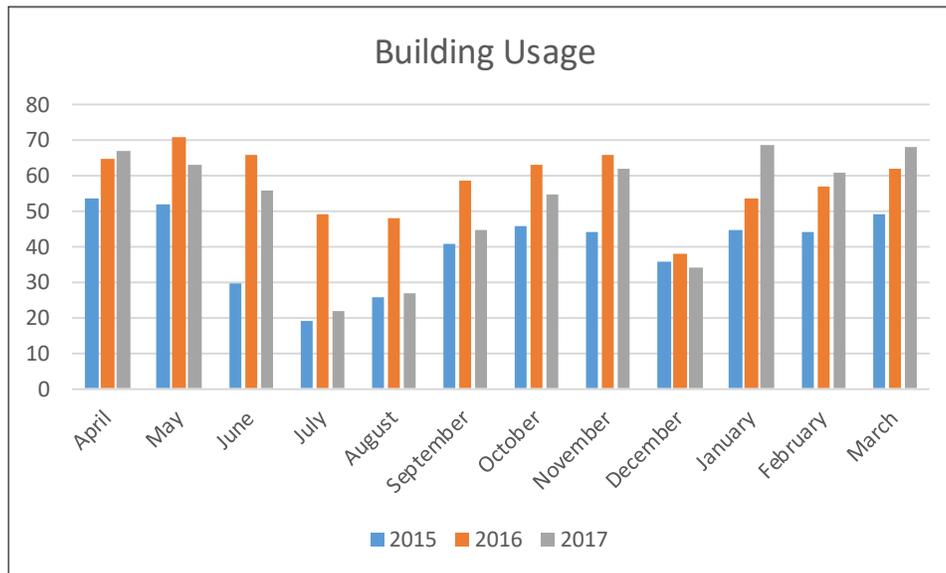
"Investing in Community Visions"

Serving the Community

In 2016-2017

Aspotogan Heritage Trust provided:

- 43,123 community copies
- 64 individual IT appointments through Tech Tuesday support session
- 629 boardroom bookings for community groups and individual consultation services



\$27,818

Was allocated from the Community Grants budget over the past year. Over 85% the requests were for sponsorship of \$500 or less.

\$35,276

Was allocated from the Community Initiatives budget. Transportation, child care and literacy support continue to be areas of emphasis.

2017 AHT Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to the recipients of the 2017 Aspotogan Heritage Trust Scholarship.

Sir John A. MacDonald High School
Cameron Longley
Catherine Johnson

Forest Heights Community School
Serenity Rice-Gillis
Emma Marchand